

CHELSIE B. SAKURADA
DELVECCHIA vs FRONTIER AIRLINES

April 17, 2019

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1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

2 FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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5 PETER DELVECCHIA, et al.,)
6 Plaintiff,) Civil No.:
7 v.) 2:19-CV-01322-KJD-NJK
8 FRONTIER AIRLINES, INC.,)
9 et al.,)
10 Defendants.)
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12
13

14 VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF CHELSIE SAKURADA

15 Taken on December 3, 2109

16 at 9:54 a.m.

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18
19 ADVANCED REPORTING SOLUTIONS
20 159 West Broadway
21 Broadway Lofts, Suite 100
22 Salt Lake City, Utah 84101
23

24 REPORTED BY: Michelle Mallonee, RPR, CSR
25

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1 you hadn't seen before, right? 11:11:09

2 A. Yeah. 11:11:12

3 Q. And then for the rest of the flight, you're 11:11:12
4 going to do surveillance on that lady? 11:11:14

5 A. No, because her pink hat didn't -- didn't -- she 11:11:17
6 didn't -- it had nothing to do with anybody else. I -- I 11:11:22
7 guess the -- the concept that we were looking -- we are 11:11:26
8 always trying to look for trafficking, I guess. And 11:11:29
9 that's something that we always look for. 11:11:32

10 Q. Well, now we've gone from there wasn't a risk to 11:11:37
11 safety, it wasn't all that concerning, to trafficking. 11:11:43
12 So let's talk about that. 11:11:48

13 Why -- first of all, does the company instruct 11:11:49
14 you to look for trafficking? 11:11:57

15 A. We have topics about it. I mean, there's -- 11:11:59
16 sometimes there's newsletters that are sent out, or just 11:12:03
17 topics that are sent out in email about the subject. And 11:12:08
18 we're all aware of it as flight attendants. 11:12:12

19 Q. All right. When you say "are sent out," you 11:12:17
20 mean sent out by Frontier to its employees? 11:12:19

21 A. Yes. 11:12:23

22 Q. And how often have you received these things? 11:12:23

23 A. Only a handful of times, maybe two, three. 11:12:27

24 Q. Two times you received emails and/or newsletters 11:12:31
25 about trafficking? 11:12:35

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1 A. Yes. 11:12:37

2 Q. And when you say "trafficking," what 11:12:37
3 specifically do you mean? 11:12:39

4 A. It's mostly newsletters about other instances 11:12:41
5 that have happened, like, on different flights and what 11:12:45
6 to look out for. And one of the things to look out for 11:12:47
7 is a kid that doesn't answer for himself. 11:12:51

8 Q. And does that specifically include a child 11:12:57
9 traveling with his parent -- 11:13:00

10 A. Umm-hmm, yes. 11:13:02

11 Q. -- who doesn't answer for himself? 11:13:03

12 A. Correct. 11:13:05

13 Q. And this is because of what Frontier has told 11:13:06
14 you? 11:13:09

15 A. Yes. 11:13:09

16 Q. Okay. So you felt that by labeling Peter and 11:13:09
17 A.D. as a situation to keep an eye on that you were 11:13:17
18 following Frontier's policies? 11:13:23

19 A. Absolutely. 11:13:25

20 Q. Okay. Now, again, these couple of items that 11:13:26
21 you've received from your employer about trafficking, 11:13:34
22 what did you understand "trafficking" to mean? 11:13:36

23 A. To me, it is some child that is with an adult 11:13:40
24 that they're not -- that they're not supposed to be with. 11:13:46
25 They're not their parents. They're not their person 11:13:48

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1 that's over them, the guardian. That they are kept 11:13:56
2 silent from this person that is taking them from one 11:14:01
3 place to another, and -- and they're not supposed to be. 11:14:04

4 Q. And you believe, based on what Anna Bond told 11:14:07
5 you, that Peter was keeping A.D. silent? 11:14:13

6 A. Yes. 11:14:18

7 Q. And you believe that Peter took the middle seat 11:14:18
8 specifically so that A.D. couldn't interact with someone 11:14:23
9 seated beside him? 11:14:26

10 A. Yes. It was something to continue looking out 11:14:27
11 for, yes. 11:14:30

12 Q. Now, when they were in the exit row, where were 11:14:31
13 Peter and A.D. seated? 11:14:36

14 A. Peter was in the middle, A.D. was seated in 11:14:39
15 the -- the D seat, which is in the aisle. So there was 11:14:41
16 someone across the aisle from him, yes. 11:14:45

17 Q. There was someone next to him? 11:14:47

18 A. The father was next to him, and there was an 11:14:49
19 aisle, and then there was another person on the other 11:14:51
20 side. 11:14:53

21 Q. All right. All right. So presumably, A.D. 11:14:54
22 could have spoken with that person across the aisle, 11:14:56
23 right? 11:14:58

24 A. Correct. 11:14:59

25 Q. It's not that far? 11:14:59

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1 A. No, it's not. 11:15:00

2 Q. Okay. So, but -- but in this case, you, I 11:15:02
3 believe, said you should be on the look out for someone 11:15:07
4 who shouldn't -- a child who shouldn't be with the 11:15:10
5 guardian. 11:15:13

6 A. Yeah. 11:15:15

7 Q. Okay. And in this case, you had a child that 11:15:16
8 was a different race from the guardian, right? 11:15:19

9 A. Umm-hmm. 11:15:23

10 Q. And that was unusual to you? 11:15:24

11 A. No. 11:15:25

12 Q. It was not unusual to you? 11:15:26

13 A. Not to me, no. 11:15:28

14 Q. Did not raise or heighten your concerns about 11:15:29
15 whether or not this child should be with this adult? 11:15:32

16 A. No. 11:15:35

17 Q. So the only thing that heightened your concerns 11:15:35
18 were that Anna Bond said that the father answered for the 11:15:38
19 child? 11:15:43

20 A. Anna -- Anna Bond was uncomfortable, and it made 11:15:43
21 us all just, yeah, keep an eye out, absolutely. 11:15:47

22 Q. Uncomfortable is kind of a general concept, 11:15:50
23 isn't it? 11:15:53

24 A. Yeah, it's very general. That's why we kept an 11:15:53
25 eye out. 11:15:57

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1 Q. Didn't you feel an obligation to question Anna
2 Bond more about why she was uncomfortable?

3 A. No, because there are situations that arise all
4 the time that could make us feel uncomfortable for just a
5 moment, and then, you know, nothing happens. But we
6 still keep an eye out, especially when it's a kid's
7 safety.

8 Q. And you felt that A.D. was in an unsafe
9 position?

10 A. I would say that he wasn't -- I -- I didn't feel
11 that he was unsafe at that time, no.

12 Q. Okay. Now, let's get back to the concept of
13 trafficking because it appears your employer is intent on
14 educating all of you flight attendants on this concept of
15 trafficking. So I want to be clear about what you
16 understand trafficking to be.

17 Trafficking connotes taking somebody from one
18 place on another; does it not?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And for what reason?

21 A. I don't know. I mean, I've heard of people
22 selling off children or -- just illegal activity, but not
23 anything specifically.

24 Q. Did you feel in this instance, based on what
25 Anna Bond had told you and what you had seen Peter doing

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1 with A.D.'s face, that Peter was going to sell A.D. in 11:17:22
2 Las Vegas? 11:17:26
3 A. I have no idea. 11:17:27
4 Q. You have no idea? 11:17:27
5 A. No. 11:17:28
6 Q. Okay. 11:17:29
7 A. My -- my -- my job is to -- to just protect 11:17:29
8 everyone on the plane. I don't know what happens on the 11:17:35
9 ground. 11:17:37
10 Q. Okay. Your job is to make sure that they are 11:17:38
11 safe from risks that are inherent in the operation of 11:17:41
12 airplanes? 11:17:45
13 A. Correct, yeah. 11:17:48
14 Q. And suspicions of trafficking really doesn't 11:17:48
15 involve anything about the operation of airplanes, does 11:17:54
16 it? 11:17:58
17 A. Well, that -- that's up to the captain. The 11:17:58
18 captain flies the plane. I am solely for those 11:18:00
19 passengers 100 percent. Even in an emergency, I'm the 11:18:04
20 one who gets those passengers off. 11:18:08
21 Q. Right. You're the one that makes sure that they 11:18:09
22 get to the exits and they get safely out the exits, that 11:18:12
23 they are wearing their life vests, and that they don't 11:18:15
24 inflate them inside because they'll stick to the ceiling. 11:18:18
25 And it's something they never tell you, by the way. 11:18:21

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1 A. They don't until it's an emergency. They really 11:18:25
2 don't. I don't think they -- 11:18:27

3 Q. It's not very funny because there's several 11:18:30
4 people that died because of that. 11:18:35

5 And you are responsible for making sure that 11:18:36
6 carts don't run into people's feet and legs and elbows -- 11:18:38

7 A. Yes. 11:18:43

8 Q. -- right? 11:18:43

9 But I'm curious where in your duties all of a 11:18:44
10 sudden you became in charge of making sure that people 11:18:47
11 aren't quote, unquote, trafficked? 11:18:50

12 A. I mean, if -- the safety of the child. The 11:18:56
13 safety of the passenger. I mean, we also make sure that 11:19:00
14 this drunk person isn't going to sit on this other drunk 11:19:03
15 person, or -- we are -- yeah. We're there for them in 11:19:07
16 all ways. I mean, verbally, physically, in every way. I 11:19:13
17 mean, if two people were starting to yell at each other, 11:19:20
18 I would get involved in that, too, and separate them, 11:19:22
19 too. 11:19:25

20 Q. If you thought a child was being trafficked and 11:19:26
21 the child was 12 years old, wouldn't you find a way to 11:19:29
22 ask the child if he was safe? 11:19:34

23 A. By separation, yes. 11:19:38

24 Q. All right. 11:19:40

25 A. You have to get them separated by passing them a 11:19:41

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1 note and having them come to the bathroom, or signaling
2 for them to go to the restroom and then ask them there,
3 yes.

4 Q. Did you do either of those things with respect
5 to A.D.?

6 A. No, because until -- no -- no, I didn't.

7 Q. All right. What was the next thing that you
8 recall occurring? And I -- I'll remind you that we're up
9 to the point where you have seen Peter touching A.D.'s
10 face.

11 A. I went up to the front, and then all of us
12 congregated to the front to talk about this situation.
13 And we all equally felt that it was just something we
14 needed to bring up to the captain's attention.

15 Q. So, and when you say "we all," you mean A, B, C,
16 and D?

17 A. Correct.

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. We -- yes. We don't usually go up to the
20 captain unless we are all on the same page.

21 Q. All right. So that is yourself and Anna Bond?

22 A. (No audible response.)

23 Q. You have to say "yes."

24 A. Oh, yes.

25 Q. Yes? Okay.

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1 A. Yes. 11:20:46

2 Q. And Amanda Nichol? 11:20:46

3 A. Yes. 11:20:49

4 Q. And Scott Warren? 11:20:50

5 A. Correct. 11:20:51

6 Q. And you're all meeting where, in the -- in the 11:20:51

7 aft gal -- 11:20:52

8 A. No, forward. 11:20:52

9 Q. -- or, I'm sorry, the -- the fore gal? 11:20:52

10 A. Forward gal, yes. 11:20:54

11 Q. Okay. And what specifically was said in that 11:20:57

12 meeting? 11:20:59

13 A. I came back up to the front and said I, as well, 11:21:03

14 saw the -- the man touching the little boy's face. I 11:21:07

15 don't think we ever -- you can't assume a relationship 11:21:12

16 like that. I don't -- I don't know if I ever assumed 11:21:17

17 that it was the father. I -- I don't remember. But I -- 11:21:20

18 I probably said that the man was touching the young 11:21:22

19 man's face -- the boy's face. And -- and I said, "I 11:21:27

20 don't know. I just don't have a good feeling about it." 11:21:30

21 And everyone else was, like, "Me, either." And so -- 11:21:33

22 Q. Well, when you say "everybody," everybody at 11:21:37

23 this point, all four flight attendants, are up at the 11:21:39

24 front, right? 11:21:41

25 A. Umm-hmm. Umm-hmm. 11:21:41